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JOHN R. D'ANTONIO, JR.
SECRETARY

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Environment Department Issues Air Quality Final Order to Asphalt Plant

(Santa Fe, NM) – Yesterday, Environment Secretary John R. D'Antonio, Jr. issued a Final Order to Cooper & Sons, Inc., an asphalt production company operating in La Jara, near Cuba, for violations of the New Mexico Air Quality Control Act.

Cooper & Sons, Inc., based in Ely, Nevada, committed six violations of its air quality construction permit at its asphalt facility in La Jara. Violations include exceeding opacity limits, failing to control particulate emissions, and failing to conduct a compliance test.

Pursuant to the Final Order, Cooper & Sons, Inc. must pay a civil penalty of \$35,748 and perform specific actions to come into compliance with the Air Quality Control Act, the Air Quality Control Regulations, and the construction permit.

The Final Order upholds a Compliance Order that the Department issued to Cooper & Sons, Inc. on October 23, 2001. Cooper & Sons, Inc. contested the Compliance Order at a hearing in Santa Fe on May 13, 2002.

For additional information, contact Debra McElroy, Section Chief for Enforcement and Compliance, Air Quality Bureau, NMED at (505) 955-8058, or Cathy Tyson-Foster, Communications Director, NEMD at (505) 827-0314.

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